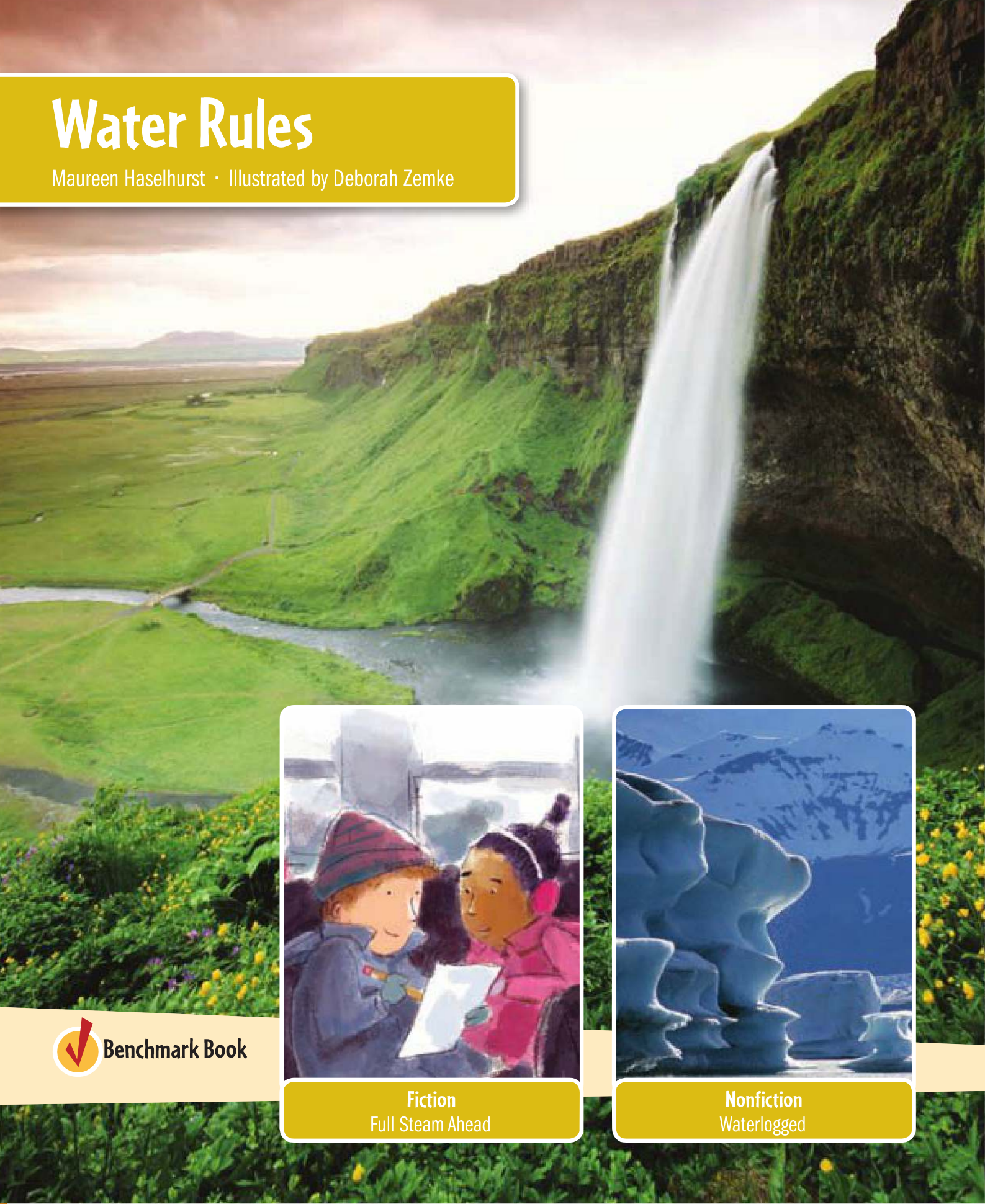


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Water Rules

Maureen Haselhurst · Illustrated by Deborah Zemke



Fiction
Full Steam Ahead



Nonfiction
Waterlogged



Benchmark Book

Level M

Mystery
Observation Log

Reading Characteristics

- Average sentence length: 12 words
- Interest level is intermediate/middle school
- Historical concepts introduced
- Story has one main plot that may span a longer period of time and a solution with multiple events
- Characters with different perspectives
- Technical terms that are explained in context introduced
- Illustrations and photographs enhance rather than support text

Nonfiction Features

- Headings
- Captions
- Sidebars
- Map
- Cross Section
- Letter

Literacy by Design Benchmark Book: *Water Rules*

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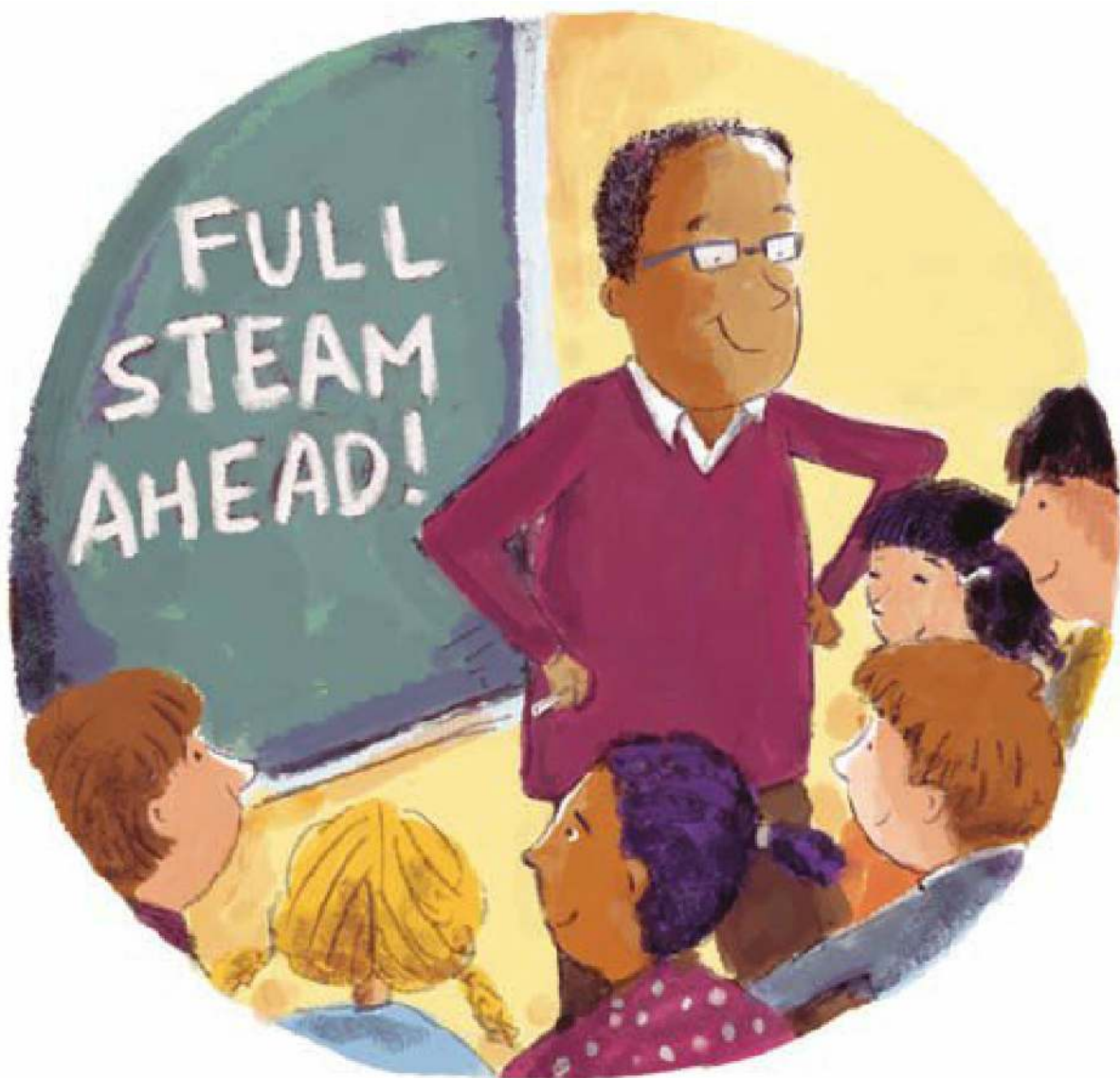
Full Steam Ahead

My teacher, Mr. Beamish, loved school trips, and he always found the most exciting places to go.

“Our mystery trip is all set for next Tuesday,” he told us.

We all sat on the edges of our seats and asked, “Where are we going?”





Mr. Beamish winked and wrote on the board: **FULL STEAM AHEAD!**

“That’s the only clue I’m giving you now,” he explained.

The class laughed and waited for another clue, but none came.

The rest of the week we asked Mr. Beamish one question after another, but he gave us no more clues.

The day before the trip, after he watched us whispering ideas to each other in the hall, Mr. Beamish said, “Here’s another clue. Water is very important to our trip.”





The day of our trip was a snowy one.

As we got on the bus, Mr. Beamish gave us a third clue, “Although it’s cold outside, it’s going to be a steamy day.”

I looked at my friend and said, “Anita, we must be going somewhere hot then.”

As we pulled away from the school, Mr. Beamish passed out some paper and markers. “Now write down the three clues I’ve given you and try to figure out where we are going.”



Anita and I wrote down the clues.

1. *Full steam ahead.*
2. *Water is important.*
3. *It's going to be a steamy day.*

Then Anita said, "I wish I could telephone my dad because he's great at solving mysteries!"

We read the clues over again, trying to figure out where we were headed.



Then I had an idea! “Let’s watch where we’re going. Maybe we’ll see clues along the way.”

As we watched streets go by, I noticed that we were following the old train tracks down near the river.





The bus was loud with everyone's chatter, and still no one knew where we would end up on our mystery trip.

"TOOT! TOOT!" Mr. Beamish said over the noise. When we all quieted down, he asked, "So does anyone know where we're going yet?"

Many hands went up.

“To the spa?”

“To the swimming pool?”

“To go skiing?”

Mr. Beamish just shook his head and said, “Here’s my last clue. We’re on track to be there in ten minutes.”





Finally we pulled into a parking lot, and as we looked out the windows, a man dressed in a uniform was blowing a whistle and yelling, “ALL ABOARD!”

There on the train tracks sat an old, black steam engine with five train cars behind it.

Anita and I looked at each other and said, “Full steam ahead!”

The mystery trip was on an old steam engine train—the clues made sense now.

“Come on! Let’s go catch that train,” Mr. Beamish said.

All together the class gave a big “TOOT! TOOT!” and scrambled onto the train.



As we climbed aboard, we saw shovelfuls of coal being added to the boiler. Mr. Beamish told us that the coal will heat the engine's water until it turns to steam. That's why it's called a steam engine.

As we took our seats, the steam engine gave a great puff, and we began our trip down the tracks.



Waterlogged

August 10–Iceland: Here We Come!

We're on our way to Iceland, and since we left the U.S. we've been flying mostly over the ocean. We will see waterfalls and hot springs while we are in Iceland.

Iceland has a lot of glaciers, too. My mom said that glaciers are large rivers of ice that form on land and last for a long time. She said glaciers have helped shape the earth's mountains and valleys.

I can't wait to see these cool things!

Fun Fact

- Iceland has more than 10,000 waterfalls and many hot springs.
- Eleven percent of Iceland is covered in glaciers.



Iceberg at Lake Jökresarlon, Iceland

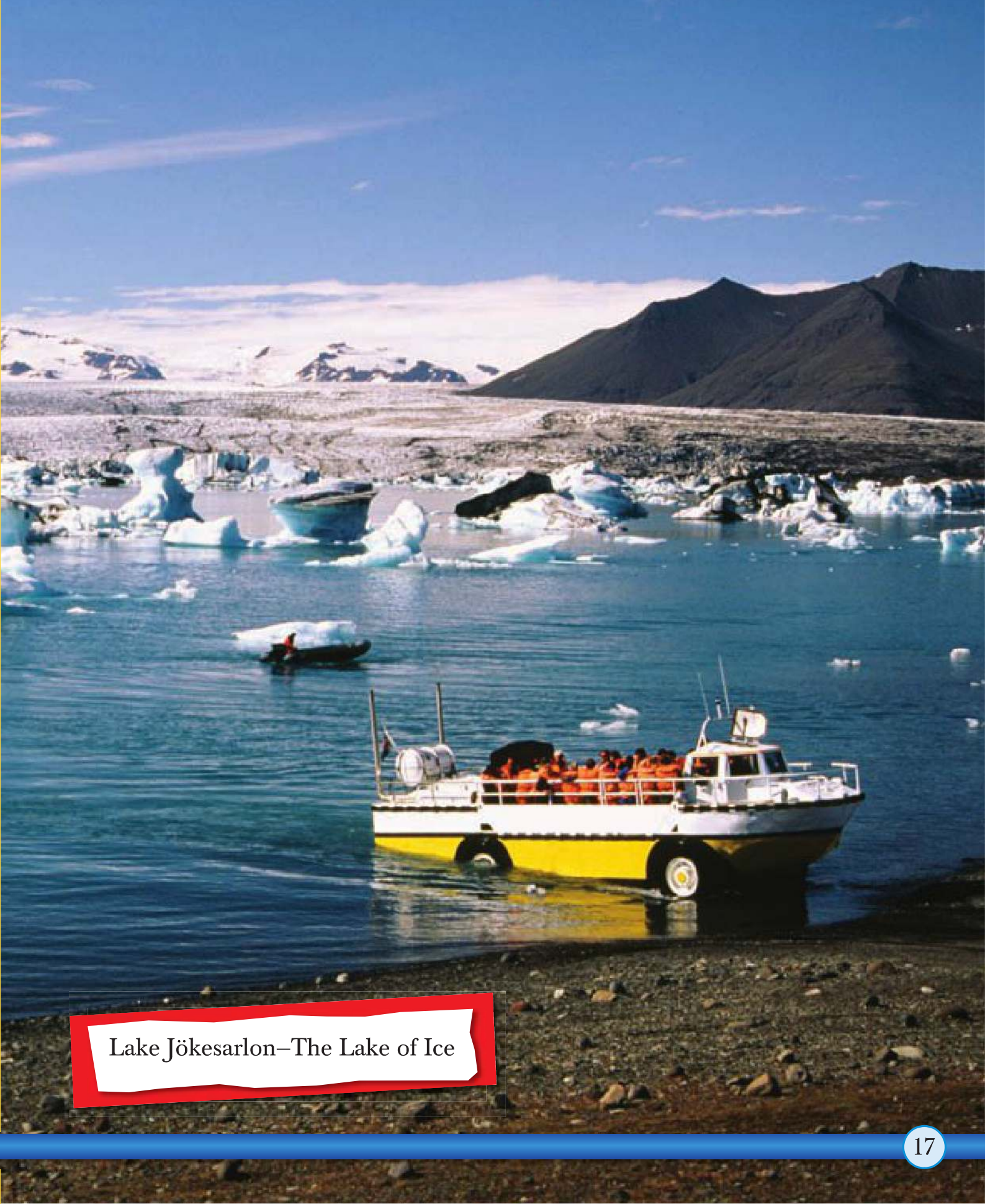
August 11- Water, Water Everywhere

Today we went to a deep lake where the water was still and blue. There were huge icebergs floating on the lake.

The boat that we took can float in the water and drive on land, too. I've never seen anything like it. While we were on the lake, we saw seals swimming. I bet they were looking for fish for dinner.

Fun Fact

- This lake began to form in the 1920s.
- Every year this lake gets bigger.



Lake Jöklesarlon—The Lake of Ice

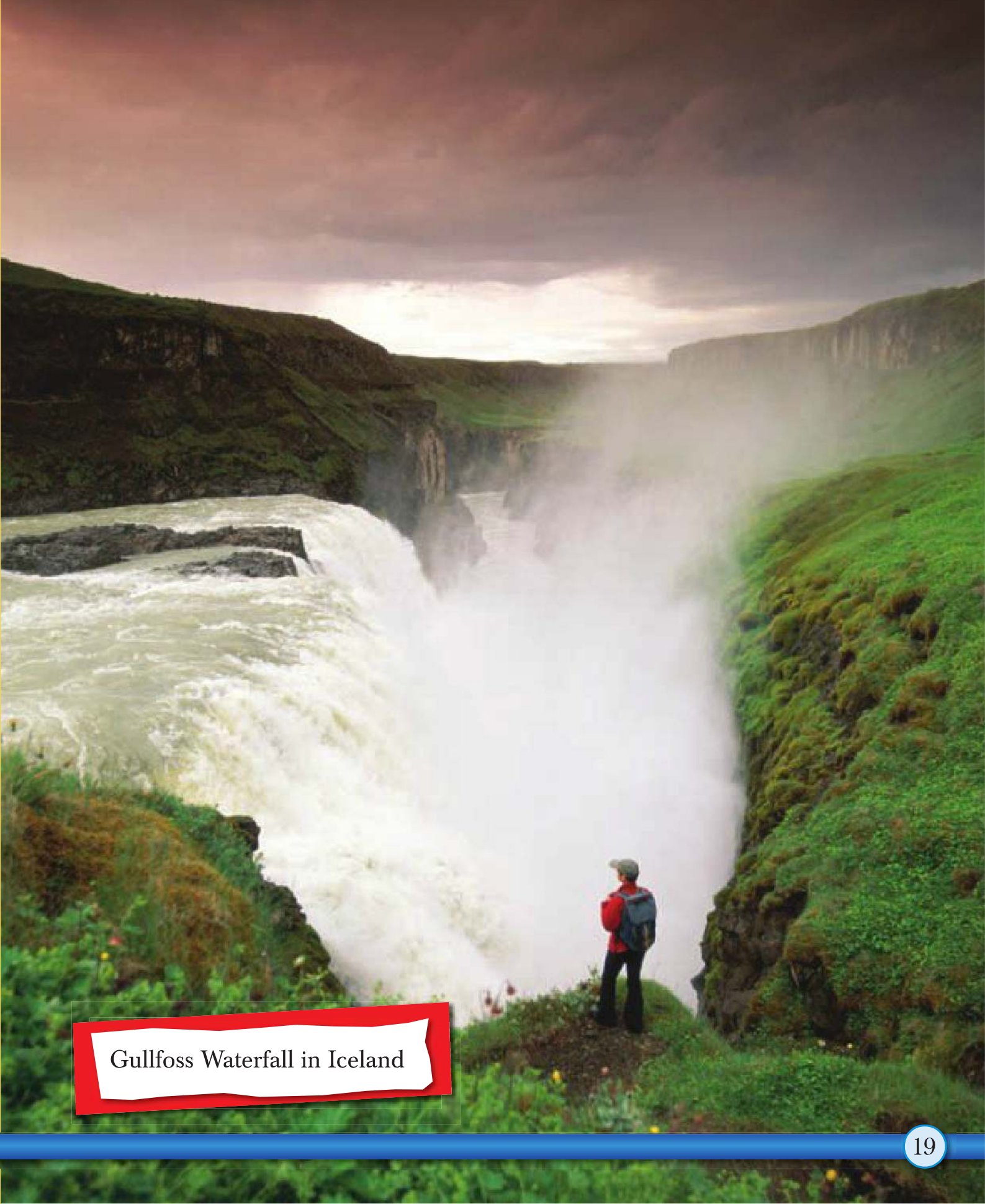
August 12- Waterfalls and Geysers!

Today we went to see an out-of-this-world waterfall! Our travel guide told us we'd be able to hear the waterfall before we would see it, and he was right. As soon as we got off the bus, I heard a loud roar coming from nearby.

After a short walk, there it was. It was a huge waterfall! I could feel the spray from the crashing water.

Fun Fact

- The Gullfoss Waterfall drops over 100 feet from the top to the bottom.



Gullfoss Waterfall in Iceland

After our visit to the waterfall, we went to see geysers. Geysers are full of boiling water. When a geyser can't hold any more water, it sends a jet of really hot water into the air from underground.

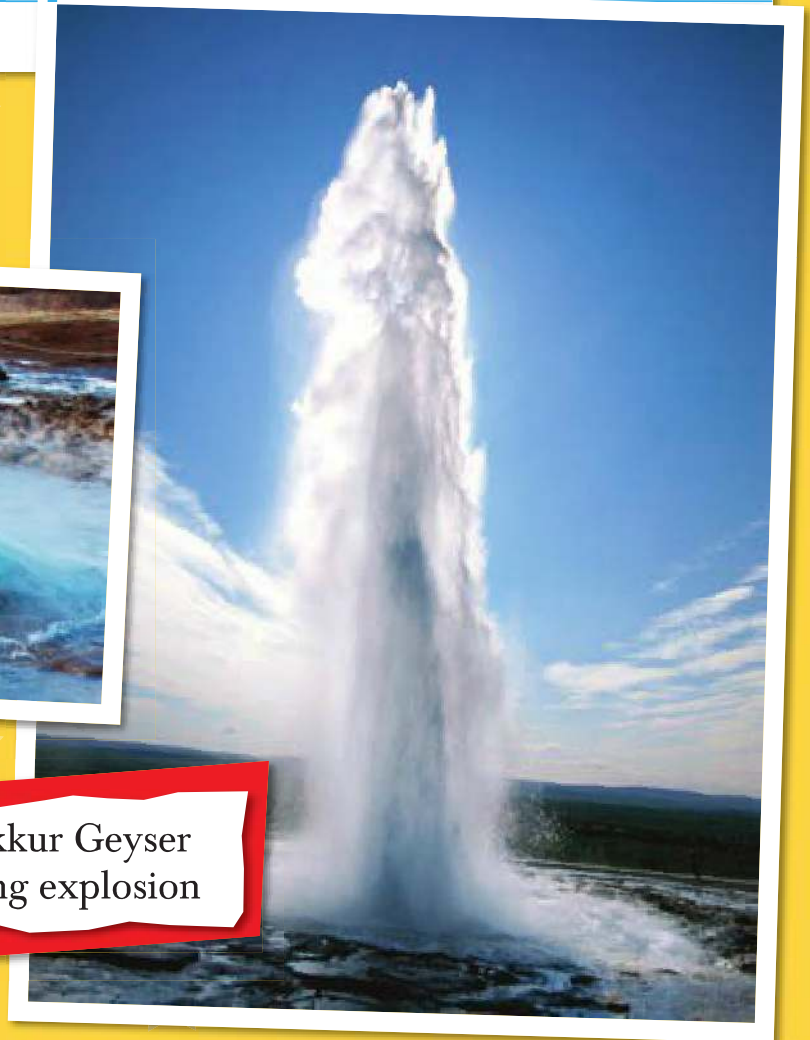


We waited a few minutes to see a geyser. It started out just like a bubbling hot spring. Then, before I knew it, it sent water and steam into the air. Our travel guide said it went between 50 and 70 feet high in the air. Wow!

Strokkur Geyser
before explosion



Strokkur Geyser
during explosion



August 13–A Quiet Day!

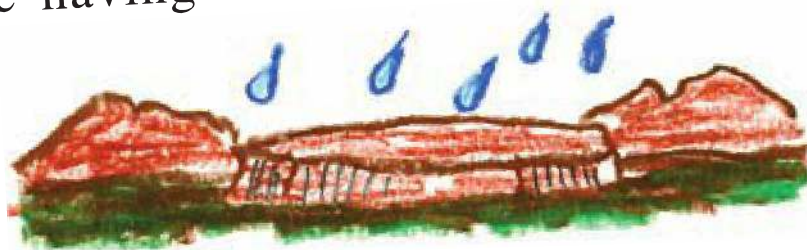
After our busy day yesterday, we had a quiet day today. I checked my e-mail and was so happy to get an e-mail from my friend Josie.

From: Josie
To: Dillon
Subject: Bad Weather

Hi, Dillon!

I couldn't wait for you to get home to tell you about the storm we had yesterday. It rained all day long and the streets flooded. We had hail as big as a dime, too. It covered the ground so I thought it had snowed. I hope you are having fun in Iceland. See you soon.

Your friend,
Josie



We went trout fishing this afternoon.
We caught six brown trout and then
let them go back in the river. It was
a fun way to spend the afternoon.



catching trout

August 14—Our Last Day!

Today we went on a jeep tour of a beautiful national park. We traveled over a huge ice cap that never melts. Some of the rivers in this park have frozen and are slow-moving glaciers made from snow and ice.

What a great way to end our trip to Iceland!



Mt. Kerlingafjoll, Iceland



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